

*CLAIM AMENDMENTS*

Please cancel claim 2 without prejudice.

1. (Currently Amended) A trigger mechanism for a power tool, comprising:
  - a chassis;
  - a trigger mounted to the chassis for movement between an ON and an OFF position,  
wherein the trigger is mounted pivotally to the chassis;
  - an electrical switch mounted to the chassis for activation by movement of the trigger between the ON and OFF positions to close and open an electrical circuit; and
  - a locking mechanism attached to the chassis, the locking mechanism being user-activated to unlock the trigger in the OFF position and trigger-activated to release the trigger in the ON position.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently Amended) The trigger mechanism as claimed in claim [[2]] 1, including an activating rod extending from the trigger to the electrical switch.
4. (Previously Presented) The trigger mechanism as claimed in claim 1, wherein the locking mechanism comprises a single locking member arranged to lock the trigger in both the ON and the OFF positions.
5. (Previously Presented) The trigger mechanism as claimed in claim 4, wherein the locking member comprises a locking pin extending through the trigger and the chassis.
6. (Previously Presented) The trigger mechanism as claimed in claim 5, wherein the locking mechanism includes a locking plate fixed to the trigger and having a slot through which the locking pin passes.
7. (Previously Presented) The trigger mechanism as claimed in claim 6, wherein the locking pin has a narrow shank portion and a wide shank portion, and the slot of the locking plate has a width through which the narrow shank portion can pass to permit movement of the trigger and a widening at one end through which the wide shank portion is engageable to lock the trigger in the OFF position.

8. (Previously Presented) The trigger mechanism as claimed in claim 6, wherein the locking mechanism further includes a pushbutton secured to the locking pin and a spring co-acting between the pushbutton and the locking plate to bias the locking pin to lock the trigger in the OFF position and to release the trigger in the ON position.
9. (Previously Presented) The trigger mechanism as claimed in claim 8, wherein the locking pin has an end remote from the pushbutton, and the trigger has an aperture into which the head is engageable to lock the trigger in the ON position.
10. (Previously Presented) The trigger mechanism as claimed in claim 4, wherein the locking mechanism includes a spring biasing the locking member to lock the trigger in the OFF position and to release the trigger in the ON position.
11. (Previously Presented) The trigger mechanism as claimed in claim 10, wherein the locking member comprises a locking pin extending through the trigger and the chassis, the trigger including a pair of opposed side walls embracing the chassis and through which a shank of the locking pin extends, the shank having an end engageable with one trigger wall to lock the trigger in the OFF position and an opposite end engageable with the other trigger wall to lock the trigger in the ON position.
12. (Previously Presented) The trigger mechanism as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrical switch includes two pairs of terminals, each pair being for an individual electrical circuit that are openable and closable upon movement of the trigger.
13. (New) A trigger mechanism for a power tool, comprising:
  - a chassis;
  - a trigger mounted to the chassis for movement between an ON and an OFF position;
  - an electrical switch mounted to the chassis for activation by movement of the trigger between the ON and OFF positions to close and open an electrical circuit; and
  - a locking mechanism attached to the chassis, the locking mechanism being user-activated to unlock the trigger in the OFF position and trigger-activated to release the trigger in the ON position;wherein the locking mechanism comprises:
  - a single locking member arranged to lock the trigger in both the ON and the OFF positions, wherein the locking member comprises a locking pin extending through the trigger

and the chassis, the trigger including a pair of opposed side walls embracing the chassis and through which a shank of the locking pin extends, the shank having an end engageable with one trigger wall to lock the trigger in the OFF position and an opposite end engageable with the other trigger wall to lock the trigger in the ON position; and

a spring biasing the locking member to lock the trigger in the OFF position and to release the trigger in the ON position.

14. (New) A trigger mechanism for a power tool, comprising:

a chassis;

a trigger mounted to the chassis for movement between an ON and an OFF position;

an electrical switch mounted to the chassis for activation by movement of the trigger between the ON and OFF positions to close and open an electrical circuit; and

a locking mechanism attached to the chassis, the locking mechanism being user-activated to unlock the trigger in the OFF position and trigger-activated to release the trigger in the ON position;

wherein the locking mechanism comprises:

a single locking member arranged to lock the trigger in both the ON and the OFF positions, wherein the locking member comprises a locking pin extending through the trigger and the chassis; and

a locking plate fixed to the trigger and having a slot through which the locking pin passes, wherein the locking pin has a narrow shank portion and a wide shank portion, and the slot of the locking plate has a width through which the narrow shank portion can pass to permit movement of the trigger and a widening at one end through which the wide shank portion is engageable to lock the trigger in the OFF position.

15. (New) A trigger mechanism for a power tool, comprising:

a chassis;

a trigger mounted to the chassis for movement between an ON and an OFF position;

an electrical switch mounted to the chassis for activation by movement of the trigger between the ON and OFF positions to close and open an electrical circuit; and

a locking mechanism attached to the chassis, the locking mechanism being user-activated to unlock the trigger in the OFF position and trigger-activated to release the trigger in the ON position;

wherein the locking mechanism comprises:

a single locking member arranged to lock the trigger in both the ON and the OFF positions, wherein the locking member comprises a locking pin extending through the trigger and the chassis;

a locking plate fixed to the trigger and having a slot through which the locking pin passes; and

a pushbutton secured to the locking pin and a spring co-acting between the pushbutton and the locking plate to bias the locking pin to lock the trigger in the OFF position and to release the trigger in the ON position.